



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
State Fire Marshal Division**

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Policy #: FP-06 (2007)	Subject of Policy: Sprinklers Supplied by Domestic Water		
Reviewed and Approved By: Jerry Rosendahl	Title: State Fire Marshal	Effective Date: July 10, 2007	Revision Date: July 10, 2007

APPLIES TO:

All Inspection Personnel, All Sprinkler Inspectors and Plan Reviewers, All Fire Protection Specialists, All Inspection Supervisors.

PURPOSE:

To allow limited area sprinkler protection from domestic water supplies and also provide guidance for the proper installation of such protection in both new and existing buildings.

POLICY: DOMESTIC WATER SPRINKLERS

The State Fire Marshal will allow the installation of sprinklers connected to the domestic water supply to protect limited areas in buildings (typically six or fewer sprinklers) when these sprinklers are either required by the code or are used as an alternate means of protection.

A) Design guidelines

This policy only permits the installation of 1/2" standard spray pendent and upright sprinkler heads. Extended coverage and sidewall sprinklers are not permitted.

Where a shut-off or control valve is installed, the valve shall be clearly labeled and secured in the open position to prevent tampering.

Sprinklers used for this type of protection shall be connected to domestic water lines at least 5/8" in diameter for copper or 3/4" in diameter for steel. Where four (4) or more sprinklers are used to protect a single room or area, the pipe sizes must be at least 1" in diameter. For all other requirements, sprinklers shall be installed according to appropriate standards (NFPA 13 (2002 edition).)

B) Number of sprinklers permitted in a single room

This policy permits protection of a small room or area with up to 6 sprinklers supplied from an adjacent available domestic water supply. In addition, a small system using dedicated piping can be used to protect multiple rooms or areas. Uses in accordance with this policy are not required to be hydraulically designed, but a maximum of 6 domestic water sprinklers are permitted in any one room.

C) Number of domestic water sprinklers permitted in a building

If there are 20 or more sprinklers being supplied from the domestic water supply, the sprinkler protection shall be hydraulically designed. Section 1.2 above would still limit the number of sprinklers in a given room to 6. The State Fire Marshal will allow the use of domestic shut-off valves that activate upon sprinkler flow to close the domestic supply and dedicate all of the water supply to the sprinkler system.

D) Existing systems

Existing domestic water sprinklers are permitted to remain. If the existing domestic sprinklers are required, they shall comply with NFPA 13 (2002 edition) for spacing, installation, obstructions, etc. Changes or additions to existing domestic water sprinklers must meet the requirements of NFPA 13 (2002 edition) and this policy for new systems.